# April 2016 @ the Oxbow Eco-Center

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>www.</b> 5400 N	2) 78 <i>5–3</i> .oxbowed IE St. Jame :. Lucie, FL	es Drive 34983	PECO-CENTER  Inty Environmental Learning Center		9:30AM Tai Chi 10:45AM Tai Chi– Yang Form	9:00 AM Guided Hike 3:00 PM Critter Crunch & Munch
3	4	10:30AM Tai Chi	6	10:00AM Homeschool Day "Flying Fun"  7:00 PM St. Lucie Audubon	9:30AM Tai Chi 10:45AM Tai Chi– Yang Form	9 9:00 AM Guided Hike 3:00 PM Critter Crunch & Munch
10	11	10:30AM Tai Chi	13	3:30 PM Tales and Trails	9:30AM Tai Chi  10:45AM Tai Chi— Yang Form	9:00 AM Guided Hike  3:00 PM Critter Crunch & Munch
17	18	10:30AM Tai Chi	20	2:00 PM Jr. Butterfly Club	9:30AM Tai Chi 10:45AM Tai Chi– Yang Form	Oxbow's Earth Day Festival 10am—3pm FREE
ST. LUC COUNT FLOR	25	10:30AM Tai Chi	27	28	9:30AM Tai Chi 10:45AM Tai Chi- Yang Form	3:00 PM Critter Crunch & Munch

**Guided Hikes** - Every Saturday (April 2,9&16) @ 9:00am. Enjoy a guided hike through the wilds of the Oxbow and be enriched with the biodiversity this preserve has to offer. Show up at 9am ready to hike! Appropriate for all ages, FREE.

Tai Chi Classes Tai Chi for Health - Tuesdays (April 5,12,19,26) @ 10:30am & Fridays (April 1,8,15,22&29) @ 9:30am.

Tai Chi Yang Form — Fridays (April 1,8,15,22&29) @ 10:45am. \$10 per class or \$32 for 4 classes. Both forms are appropriate for ages 16 and up. RSVP a must.

Critter Crunch & Munch - Saturdays (April 2, 9,16,30) @ 3:00pm. Bring something to snack on while you watch the Oxbow's animal ambassadors enjoy their favorite time of day -- meal-time! Appropriate for all ages, FREE.

**Homeschool Day** - "Flying Fun" Thur. April 7th @ 10am. Explore aerodynamics by making and demonstrating wind driven helicopters, planes and balloon rockets. Ages 7 and up, \$5/pp, Pre-register.

St. Lucie Audubon Lecture Series - "Birding Honduras" - Thurs., April 7th @ 7pm. Sam Fried is an accomplished birder who leads birding expeditions all over North and South America. He will be discussing birds that can be found in the Central American country of Honduras. This lecture is FREE.

Tales & Trails. - Thurs., April 14th@ 3:30pm. Join Ms. Phyllis for a story time adventure; and then take a hike in our butterfly garden or down the boardwalk to see what kinds of animals you can spot. Each month the story changes but the fun never stops! Ages 2-6, FREE.

Junior Butterfly Club - Thurs., April 21 @ 2:00pm.

Join the Club! Become part of the Oxbow's Junior Butterfly Club and learn about butterflies, other wildlife, and gardening while gaining leadership and team-building skills. Ages 5-15, \$5/class (Oct.-May); Pre-

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## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Festival @ the Oxbow Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> \* 10am—3pm\* FREE

register.

Join your friends and neighbors in a celebration of all that wildlife and wild lands offer us -- beauty, inspiration, vital resources, and a sense of belonging to a community. This year, the Oxbow's Earth Day Festival will be bigger and better than ever.

#### Drum Roll Please

Our line-up includes local reggae music, live raptors and reptiles, and dozens of interactive exhibitors. Because Earth Day is as much about the human community as it is the wild community, we are expanding our exhibitors to not only include conservation organizations and nature centers, but also healthy living and community resource organizations here in St. Lucie County. You'll even 'Bee A-Mazed' with the creativity of Indian River State College students as you walk through their maze and test your environmental acumen.

On stage you'll be able to hear the sweet voices of the Friends Chorus of the Treasure Coast, a group of specially challenged kids who find power and friendship in song. The Hichiti Dancers will perform a Native American dance routine; and Amazing Grace Dance troupe will wow you with a variety of modern dance moves. The Deaf and Hard of Hearing of the Treasure Coast will be providing a program on 'Dangerous Decibels' while providing sign language interpretation throughout the festival.

For the kids (or young at heart) there will be storytelling sessions, crafts, face painting, an eco-challenge and butterfly scavenger hunt, a ladybug release, and Three Little Birds' early childhood music and movement sessions.

### Join the Parade

The hallmark of Oxbow's Festival is a Procession of the Species parade, a widespread event that originated in Olympia Washington

to celebrate Earth Day and the great diversity of life on the planet. Participants choose a species and create a costume or display representing life from sea anemones to sea turtles and lily pads to owls. There are just three guidelines to follow: no motorized vehicles (except wheelchairs), no pets, no written words. Drummers and drumming groups are especially encouraged to join the parade and provide the heartbeat of the celebration.

This year, prizes will be given for the best wildlife costumes! Kids' categories include costumes for ages 2-6, 7-11, and 12-16. Adult categories include best individual costume, best team costume and best costume made primarily of recycled materials. The parade will take place at noon and winners will be announced on stage directly following. Be sure to arrive early so you don't miss out!

#### Pay it Forward

And so you don't forget the essence of Earth Day, there will be several ways you can give back and make a difference in the community. Bring an old instrument you're not using and the Blues Alliance of the Treasure Coast will get it in the hands of local students so everyone has a chance to be part of the band. Arrive by bicycle or do an act of kindness during the festival and our Good Stewardship roamers may spot you and give you a reward.

### Brought to You By...

Be sure to visit our sponsor booths – companies and agencies that care about the community they are a part of and who share your passion of the environment. Stop by to thank Whiticar Boat Works, Ampersand Graphics, Rick Carroll Insurance Company, Ft. Pierce Utilities Authority and St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners. Without their support and that of dozens of volunteers who have been working tirelessly in the planning phase, this Festival could not take place.

